

REMARKS

At the outset, the Applicant would like to thank Examiner Nguyen for the courtesies extended to the undersigned during the telephone interview of 7 September 2005. The parties discussed a draft response transmitted by the Applicant to the Office via facsimile on 6 September. No agreement regarding claim allowance was reached during this interview. However, following up on that interview, the Applicant has added more discussion regarding § 112, 1st paragraph, support for the revisions made to claim 28 and for the subject matter recited in new claim 31.

The Applicant has received and reviewed the Official Action mailed by the Office on 30 June 2005 (hereinafter, the "Action"). This paper is submitted as a fully-responsive reply to the Action, and the Applicant requests favorable action on the subject application at the earliest convenience of the Office.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

As stated on page 2 of the Action, pending claims 28-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,718,026 to Pershan, et al. (hereinafter, "Pershan"). The Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

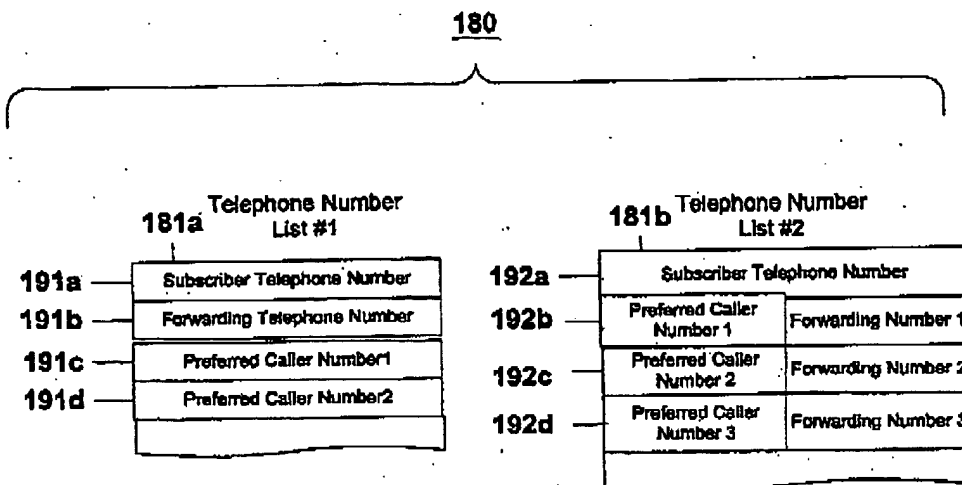
Solely to advance the prosecution of this application, the Applicant has amended claim 28 to clarify additional features of the selective call forwarding system. For convenience, the Applicant reproduces claim 28, with the above revisions shown in redline:

28. (currently amended) A selective call forwarding system, comprising:

(a) a telephone system configured to receive a call made from one of a plurality of caller telephone numbers to a subscriber telephone number, and to selectively forward a-the call made to a called one of a plurality of forwarding telephone numbers, wherein different ones of the forwarding telephone numbers are associated with respective caller telephone numbers and are also associated with the subscriber telephone number based on forwarding information for the called number; and

(b) a programmable telephone number table containing at least the subscriber telephone forwarding information number and associating therewith the plurality of caller telephone numbers, and further associating with different ones of the caller telephone numbers different respective forwarding telephone numbers, and wherein the programmable telephone number table is in communication with the telephone system that-and can be edited by a user of the system via a website.

The above revisions are believed fully supported under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, at least by the Applicant's Figures 3 and 4, and by related description appearing in the Applicant's specification in Paragraphs [0039] and [0044] – [0047]. For convenience of discussion, the Applicant inserts here a copy of Figure 3 as originally filed:



As shown above, Figure 3 illustrates a telephone number table 180 that includes two illustrative telephone number lists 181a and 181b. The telephone number list #1 (181a) illustrates several illustrative caller telephone numbers 191c and 191d that are associated with subscriber telephone number 191a. The telephone number list #2 (181b) illustrates other illustrative caller telephone numbers 192b, 192c, and 192d that are associated with subscriber telephone number 192a.

Additionally, the telephone number list #2 (181b) associates each of the caller telephone numbers 192b, 192c, and 192d, in turn, with a respective forwarding number. For example, the Preferred Caller Number 1 is associated with a Forwarding Number 1, the Preferred Caller Number 2 is associated with a Forwarding Number 2, and the Preferred Caller Number 3 is associated with a Forwarding Number 3. Finally, as

described at the end of Paragraph [0039], the telephone number table 180 can reside in a data storage device such as the database 31 of the SCP 30, which is shown in Figure 1 as part of the wire line telephone system 20.

Pershan pertains generally to call forwarding methods and apparatus. While Pershan's column 10, line 60 through column 11, line 7 describes a process by which a subscriber may specify the telephone number of calling parties whose calls are to be forwarded, the Applicant submits that this portion of Pershan does not disclose "a telephone system configured to ... selectively forward the call to a one of a plurality of forwarding telephone numbers, wherein different ones of the forwarding telephone numbers are associated with respective caller telephone numbers and are also associated with the subscriber telephone number", as recited in claim 28. Pershan may reference, for example, an attorney allowing calls from selected clients to be forwarded to his home. However, Pershan does not appear to enable the attorney to specify that calls from different clients are to be forwarded to different forwarding numbers.

Based on at least the foregoing, the Applicant submits that Pershan does not support a § 102 rejection of claim 28. The Applicant thus requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejections of claim 28 and claims 29 and 30 depending therefrom.

The Applicant has also added new method claims 31-35. These new claims are believed fully supported under § 112, 1st paragraph, on at least the same basis as were the revisions to claim 28 discussed above.

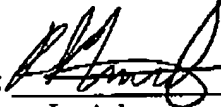
The Applicant submits that the above comments directed to Pershan relating to claim 28 apply equally to claims 31-35. More particularly, the Applicant submits that Pershan does not disclose at least "forwarding the first call to a first forwarding telephone number associated with the first caller telephone number", and "forwarding the second call to a second forwarding telephone number associated with the second caller telephone number", as recited in claim 31.

Conclusion

The Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102 rejections of claims 28-30, and also requests favorable action on new claims 31-35. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent favorable action on this case, the Office is requested to contact the undersigned to resolve the issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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